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County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 14, 2020

RE: Inland Empire Regional Energy Network - SUPPORT

To whom it may concern:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support for the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to become a REN Program Administrator of energy efficiency funds.

The County supports the efforts of I-REN application and its initiatives designed to fill gaps in existing program offerings from other providers, and provide technical assistance support for municipal agencies looking to upgrade community centers, libraries, senior centers, cooling centers and daycare centers. In addition this initiative that will work with local building departments to offer support and training for compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Code and engage with building departments, local contractors, and regional construction firms through mentorships, education, and outreach activities; and the promotion of online resources and communities.

The final piece is a Workforce, Education and Training aimed to address the current limited number of qualified contractors providing energy efficiency services within the region. I-REN will identify partnership opportunities with local academia to develop and offer work force programs that can support high school, community college and occupational/technical school students with job opportunities in the field of energy efficiency.

I-REN brings the necessary local experience to continue and expand their current work addressing the needs of underserved customers and ensuring affordable access to energy efficiency programs across the region.

For the reasons listed above, the County supports Inland Regional Energy Network application. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please contact Josh Candelaria, Governmental and Legislative Director, at 909 387-4821 or icandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Curt Hagman

Fourth District Supervisor

Chair, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors